

Fact Sheet: School Based Prevention and Intervention Services

Updated: October 13, 2016

<p>Overview</p>	<p>In 1989, the Washington State Legislature passed the Omnibus Alcohol and Controlled Substances Act that authorized state agencies to conduct a variety of programs that address the public’s concern about the level and consequences of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use. As a result, the Student Assistance Prevention and Intervention Services Program (SAPISP), operated by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) with a mix of local, state, and federal funds (e.g., Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant), places intervention specialists in schools to implement comprehensive student assistance programs that address problems associated with substance use and violence.</p> <p>Local programs. Program funds are distributed to the nine Educational Service Districts (ESDs) that serve the state. Funding amounts to communities are based on two criteria: (a) Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) guidelines from Washington’s Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR), and (b) a formula that accounts for both student enrollment and estimated need for services in each region.</p> <p>Activities and services provided. Universal prevention activities typically target intact classrooms or the entire school. Examples include supervising peer leadership clubs; providing information to students, staff, and families; and coordinating with community coalitions.</p> <p>Direct intervention services involve identifying students who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at risk of initiating substance use or antisocial behavior. • coping with the substance use of significant others. • using alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs. • developing a dependence on alcohol or other drugs. <p>An array of education, peer support groups, social skills training, and individual and family interventions are employed to address the needs of each student. When the severity of use requires services that cannot be provided in the school setting, students are referred to community-based services such as substance use disorder treatment or a mental health counseling.</p>
<p>Eligibility Requirements</p>	<p>The focus for SAPISP services in CPWI communities is in the middle schools and in some cases the high schools. All students are eligible in the schools serviced by intervention specialist.</p>

Authority	ESSHB 1793 and RCW 28A.170 states that intervention specialists are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide early alcohol and other drug prevention and intervention services to students and their families. • Assist in screening and referral to treatment providers. • Strengthen the transition back to school for students who experience suspension or expulsion due to violation of a school drug or alcohol policy.
Budget	Substance Abuse Mental Health Administration, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant: \$4,068,096. Washington State Dedicated Marijuana Account: \$427,500.
Rates	N/A.
Costs and Numbers Served	In SFY 2016, 1,810 clients were served.
Partners	OSPI administers the program and collaborates with Educational Service Districts, school districts, and schools across the state to provide prevention and intervention programming.
Oversight	The Division of Behavior Health and Recovery provides funds to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), which in turn, awards funds to Educational Service Districts for the purpose of placing intervention specialists in schools.
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